

OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS CONCERNING FOREIGN RELATIONS

EIGHTEENTH YEAR OF SHOWA (1943) (JULY-DECEMBER)

BOARD OF INFORMATION

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(pp 76-79)

3. MESSAGE OF FOREIGN MINISTER MAMORU SHIGEMITSU BROADCAST TO  
BERLIN ON THE OCCASION OF THE THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF THE CONCLUSION OF  
THE TRIPARTITE PACT

September 27, 1943.

I feel it a great honour to exchange greetings personally with Your Excellency on this memorable day of the third anniversary of the conclusion of the Tripartite Pact.

The Axis Alliance aims at the establishment of justice throughout the world, and we are marching forward toward the fulfillment of our great mission with an unfaltering spirit regardless of what happens on the way. No matter to what machinations and manoeuvres Britain and America may resort in order to induce the Badoglio regime to fresh acts of betrayal and bad faith, the Axis Alliance remains unshaken. The Pact of Alliance, shines forth as brightly as ever to illumine our road to victory.

The ardent friendship of the Fuehrer has rendered possible the miraculous rescue of Premier Mussolini, who, upon this auspicious day has become the head of the newly established Fascist Republic of Italy. The Japanese Government, in conjunction with the German Government, has immediately taken the necessary steps to recognize the new Government. Thus will Italy, once again under the leadership of Premier Mussolini, be redeemed from destruction and dishonour entailing upon Badoglio's unconditional surrender. We are fully confident that the future of the new Italy is assured a glorious future.

The Axis countries, as States and peoples as well as members of the family of nations, have the inalienable right to existence equally with other states and peoples. It is because our very existence was actually endangered that we have at last taken up the sword. Indeed, this war is to us no other than a war of self-defense. This is precisely the reason why we have steeled our determination to fight it through until we gain the ultimate victory. Our enemy, denying us even our proper right to existence, has resorted to all means, military, political and economic, in his attempt to lay a

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stranglehold upon us. Even today we may see clearly in his openly declared war aims an avowal of the intention to restore a world structure which permits him to rule and dominate other nations as he will, and to eliminate the Axis Powers which obstruct his purpose. During the past three years the Axis Alliance has succeeded, often under severe ordeals, in carrying out its constructive mission. At present, in the east as in the west, we are meeting and repulsing violent counter-offensives launched by the enemy. Our Allies in Europe headed by the German Reich are gallantly defending the great European fortress. They are manifesting a matchless fighting spirit of daring and bravery for which we, Japanese, desire to pay our profound respect. On the other hand, on the various fronts of the Greater East Asia, the enemy, whose counter-attacks have been expected, is being subjected to crushing blows entailing him huge losses in men and material.

While it is well for us to renew on this memorable day our firm determination to prosecute the common war vigorously, there is no room for doubt that the realization of justice throughout the world, which is the aim of the Axis Alliance, will be fully achieved by our glorious victory.

Japan desires to carry out great constructive work based on Justice in the vast region of East Asia, designed to bring about peace and prosperity to all nations and peoples therein by dint of mutual cooperation. This policy and purpose of Japan is not only obviously just, but also embodies the natural and legitimate aspirations of the peoples of East Asia. In fact, we are now staking our very national fortune in a colossal war in order to achieve this great mission. The Anglo-Saxon Powers, who for long years past invaded Asia, reduced a major portion of it to a colonial or semi-colonial status. They have not scrupled to resort to all kinds of intrigues subjecting the Asiatic peoples to merciless exploitations. Divide et impera is their time-honoured favourite tactics. The defence of our right of existence is identical with the liberation of East Asia from the domination and exploitation of Britain and America. We must, therefore, endeavour, first of all, to eliminate the disturbing influences of the Anglo-Saxon Powers. On the other hand, Britain and America, still intent upon regaining their oldtime mastery of Asia, have deliberately provoked the present war. Although they continue to fight stubbornly, the valor and enterprise of our military and naval forces are more than equal to check their inordinate ambition.

Now at this time when the nations of the Greater East Asia are cooperating on the basis of equality and reciprocity toward the inauguration of a new era of common prosperity and well-being, China should be freed from the Anglo-Saxon yoke and she should be rebuilt and restored to Asia. Thailand should develop a powerful sovereign independent state. Burma, the Philippines and India are all entitled to the honor of independence. Thus, these Asiatic peoples would be

enabled each to enjoy its proper place. The present war is on the one hand a war for universal justice, and on the other a war for the renaissance of Asia. I cannot lay too much stress on the absolute necessity for all the Asiatic nations and peoples to fight the war to our common victory, together with our European Allies, so as to ensure our right of existence, which was so seriously jeopardized.

The spirit of Japan, who is fighting in East Asia, is the spirit of Germany and her allies fighting in Europe. It is absolutely clear that through the final victory of the Axis Powers the great aim of our Alliance to establish international justice will be completely attained.

Let me wish the health of His Excellency the Fuhrer and your noble self, and the growing prosperity of the German people.

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11. RADIO ADDRESS OF FOREIGN MINISTER MAMORU SHIGEMITSU, DELIVERED ON THE SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF THE JAPANESE-GERMAN-ITALIAN AGREEMENT

December 11, 1943

Today is the second anniversary of the conclusion of the Agreement between Japan, Germany and Italy relating to the prosecution of the common war.

As soon as Japan, accepting the challenge of America and Britain, rose in arms, on December 8 two years ago, our allies, Germany and Italy lost no time in responding to our action by forming a common war front with us. It was two years ago today that an agreement was signed between the three countries to the effect that Japan, Germany and Italy would carry with their total strength on the war forced upon them by America and Britain until it was brought to a successful conclusion, and that they would not make a truce with either one of the countries except upon a complete agreement of views among the three Powers, and further that following the victorious conclusion of the war they would in accordance with the spirit of the Tripartite Pact, cooperate and collaborate in the disposition of post-war affairs. In order to celebrate this anniversary His Majesty the Emperor today has graciously exchanged congratulatory messages with the heads of German and Italian Governments, while in the various capitals of the Axis nations, commemorative functions have been duly performed in observance of the day.

America and Britain who precipitated the war against us two years ago have recently met in conference and made known their true intentions. They declare the war aims are to conquer Japan and relegate our country to the status prior to the Meiji Restoration and

also to deprive us of our military strength which is so much in the way of accomplishing the foregoing objective. They are boasting that they would carry on the war until they have succeeded in bringing about Japan's unconditional surrender. What do they mean by relegating Japan to the status prior to the Meiji Restoration?

Asia, who with its spiritual cultures of ages had sunk into indolence and inaction, could not withstand the onslaught of America, Britain and other Powers with their superior material civilization. These countries during the past centuries invaded Asia, sweeping from the west to the east and conquering one country after another. The Arab and Islamic regions, India, Burma, the Malay peninsula, Java and even the Philippines became their colonies. Continental East Asia from the North to the South was reduced to a colonial or semi-colonial status. Thus by exploiting Asia they had built up a boundless prosperity of their own countries. In order to subjugate China they did not hesitate to wage the Opium War. And finally to subjugate Japan similarly they dispatched their navies. The British Fleet which bombarded Kagoshima, or the American Fleet under Commodore Perry which reached the Bay of Shimoda, had no other aim than the conquest of Japan. It is to the conditions in those days that America and Britain are now dreaming to put back Japan. Would this be really possible?

Japan by dint of her incredible efforts in the nearly one hundred years since the opening of the country has come face to face in the international arena with the world's major Powers. By developing her intrinsic capacity in parallel with the progress of the world she has been placed in a position where she must share the responsibilities for the maintenance of the peace in the world. Despite the fact that in the light of human progress the world at the present stage is too small from the economic standpoint, its resources are being monopolized by Britain and America, while other nations and peoples are made victims of their exploitation.

On the other hand, the world, when viewed politically, has by no means reached the point where it may be put under the control of any single Power, because it is still by far too large. Nevertheless, America and Britain are attempting to overreach beyond their proper domains and conquer other countries by force of arms so as to perpetuate their monopoly of the world resources and their exploitation of other peoples.

They dislike nothing more than that Japan as a Great Power should become Asia's forerunner and the guardian of East Asia. Accordingly, in order to prevent Japan, in the first place from becoming powerful and great they have resorted to all manner of machinations. The formulation of their policy of pitting China against Japan is a most notorious case in point, as is evident from the so-called Christmas Memorandum of Austin Chamberlain, British Foreign Secretary of 1926. "Divide and rule" is their favorite game, which is played under "balance of power" politics in Europe and the principles of "the Open



Door and Equal Opportunity" in China. The Anglo-Saxons have a vicious tendency to impose upon others their own principles and ideas, and to despise as heretics all those who possess a character or creed different from theirs. The world they want is a world of one color-- an Anglo-American color. The peace they want is "Pan Britanica" of old, or "Pax Anglo-Saxonica", as it may be called today.

America and Britain, in their resolve not to permit Japan to exist as a Great Power resorted politically to their traditional policy of divide and rule and economically straight to economic war by using as weapons their monopoly of resources and their organized strength. This War had been started by them long before the Pearl Harbor.

During the past two years of the War, the forces of aggression, thanks to the irresistible might of our army and navy, have been driven out for the most part from the region of East Asia, although the task still remains of sweeping them off clean from the entire Asia. It is with the elimination of the forces of aggression that the true aspect of East Asia have come to be fully revealed. It has been concretely shown in our new China policy, and its extension--our East Asia policy. It is clearly defined in the Joint Declaration adopted and issued at the Assembly of Greater East-Asiatic Nations by the heads of the governments of our allies. The Declaration is rooted in the following five fundamental concepts.

The first is that Asia should no longer remain a colony or semi-colony of the Anglo-Saxons, but it should be delivered from alien aggression and exploitation and restored to the Asiatics.

The second is that Asia should rise again and that there should be constructed a new East Asia. In the first place, the various nations of East Asia must recover their sovereignty and independence, which should be respected by one another while political equality and economic reciprocity should prevail among them. Such is the foundation, upon which may be built international relations of neighbourliness and amity.

The third is that of safeguarding the liberated areas from being once more subjected to external aggression and exploitation.

Japan, spurred by her spirit of action and progress and imbued with the lofty ideal upon which the empire is founded, has undertaken the great task of liberating Asia. In so doing she has no other end in view than to realize a world of common prosperity and well-being, in which all peoples are enabled to enjoy, each their proper place. It would be intolerable for the peoples of East Asia if their territories which have been

liberated at no small costs should be made again the object of aggression and exploitation. We do not object to Americans in America and Europeans in Europe finding respectively their proper places and promoting common prosperity and well-being. But Asia must naturally be restored to the peoples of East Asia.

The fourth concept is that in the economic and cultural fields there should prevail freedom and the open door principle so that nations may minister to one another's needs. Accordingly we stand for free access to natural resources, freedom of communication and trade, and unrestricted cultural interchange. Freedom of the seas should also be upheld. It is along such lines as these that the life of mankind should be moulded so as to eliminate as much as possible to causes of conflict. Economic exclusionism and monopoly generate the Anglo-Saxon concept of economic war, which in turn leads to an armed clash. If war of arms is to be renounced as an instrument of policy, an economic war as an instrument of policy should be equally renounced; and the party provoking it should most properly be made to bear the burden of war-guilt.

The fifth of the concepts is that the principles of equality and reciprocity should be extended to govern international relations throughout the world.

While the nations of East Asia are to realize common prosperity and well-being in accordance with the principles of equality and reciprocity, we intend and demand the extension of these principles to the rest of the world. All nations, large or small, strong or weak, should be accorded, we believe, an equal treatment and governed by the principle of reciprocity. Likewise, we uphold the principle of racial equality.

Racial prejudice among Americans and the British is notorious as has been exemplified in the White Australia doctrine, the immigration issues the exclusion of Asiatics from South Africa, and lynching of negroes in the United States. These are not merely so many blots on civilization but constitute at the same time serious political problems. Without the abolition of racial discrimination, there can be no true liberation of East Asia, nor can there be hope for world peace.

I have explained the basic concepts that underlie the policy of the Great East-Asiatic Nations as has been enunciated to the world through their Joint Declaration. It goes without saying that upon them also are based Japan's policy. Having seen East Asia in the process of reconstruction and Asia itself about to be made free, America and Britain have made public their intention of repudiating the existence of Japan - the shield for



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the defense of East Asia - as a Great Power, exposing thereby their long-cherished plan to crush our country. They induced Chungking to join in the Cairo Conference, and they are trying every-thing to flatter and cajole that regime so as to prevent its defection and to prolong the Sino-Japanese conflict. They have promised the regime that China would be in the future allowed to replace Japan as a great Asiatic Power. By giving a promise impossible of fulfilment, they are simply seeking to make Chungking do them the yeoman's service in their war against Japan. This action, prompted through it was by their fear of Japan's might, is a perfect exposure of their sinister design to divide and rule East Asia by creating schism and friction. America and Britain are merely setting forth in blustering terms their intentions of conquering Japan, and conquering and exploiting Asia, but indicate nothing relating to world peace as if they desired one war lead to another war. It presents an interesting contrast with the Joint Declaration adopted by the Greater East Asia Assembly in view of the destructive character of the one and the constructive character of the other. No comment is required as to which is right and which is wrong.

Today, together with her kindred nations of East Asia, Japan is staking her national fortunes in a war for the liberation, protection and reconstruction of East Asia. She is fighting bravely with all her energy. East Asia belongs to the peoples of East Asia. This is a war for the defense of our homelands. On its outcome depends whether East Asia shall finally be delivered from the yoke of Anglo-Saxon domination, or it shall become once more colonies of America and Britain to groan forever under their ruthless oppression and exploitation. This is truly East Asia's war for independence. Indeed, it is not only East Asia's war for independence; it is a great historic war for the upholding of world justice.

With the aim to destroy the Anglo-American hegemony of the world, and to usher in a new era of an equitable and truly enduring peace Japan and Germany are conducting their campaigns with skillful planning and valiant fighting. We are achieving brilliant results while our enemies are showing unmistakable signs of dismay and anxiety. As long as our two countries together with our other allies both in Europe and Asia fight on with an absolute confidence in victory, it is clear as daylight that we shall win in the end.

Doc. No. 1217

C E R T I F I C A T E

W. D. C. No. \_\_\_\_\_

I. P. S. No. 1217

Statement of Source and Authenticity

I, Takahashi Michitoshi hereby certify that I am officially connected with the Japanese Government in the following capacity: Secretary of Cabinet and that as such official I have custody of the document hereto attached consisting of \_\_\_\_\_ pages, dated July-Dec., 1943, and described as follows: Official announcement concerning foreign relations. I further certify that the attached record and document is an official document of the Japanese Government, and that it is part of the official archives and files of the following named ministry or department (specifying also the file number or citation, if any, or any other official designation of the regular location of the document in the archives or files): Board of Information.

Signed at Tokyo on this  
30th day of August, 1946.

/s/ M. Takahashi  
Signature of Official  
SEAL

Witness: \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary of Cabinet  
Official Capacity

Statement of Official Procurement

I, Richard H. Larsh, hereby certify that I am associated with the General Headquarters of the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, and that the above described document was obtained by me from the above signed official of the Japanese Government in the conduct of my official business.

Signed at Tokyo on this  
30th day of Aug, 1946

/s/ Richard H. Larsh  
NAME

Witness: /s/ J. A. Curtis  
2d Lt. M. I.

Investigator, IPS  
Official Capacity